

Centrepont Christian Church

Annual Report 2018-19

Registered Charity No.1067616

Trustees

Denise Toseland
Denise Marsh

Support Centre
Operations Manager
Danny Kumar



Officers Report



Welcome once again to the Centrepont Christian Church Annual Report.

It's hard to capture the essence of church or a gospel community with mere words on a page—even with the addition of pictures but hopefully this annual report gives a snapshot of a year in the life of God's grace at Centrepont Church.

What you read here represents countless hours of Christian ministry and sacrifice, by many ordinary believers in Jesus, who've been touched by God's faithfulness.

At Centrepont we remain committed to the centrality of the weekly preaching of God's word, the word of life that inspires us, challenges us, and changes us.

We're also a church committed to taking the gospel of Jesus Christ to the community around us.

This happens in any number of ways but not forgetting our own, personal frontlines where God has called us to live and speak for him.

Throughout the year we've had the privilege of deepening our Christian partnerships with our brothers and sisters around West Bromwich.

Local church ministry is of course a team game, and so it's been wonderful to serve the Lord together with such an excellent, creative and hard-working staff team and ministry leaders.

Likewise it has been privilege to know the wisdom, support and fellowship of the senior Leadership team as we have overseen the work of the church together, as shepherds under the Chief Shepherd. A true band of brothers & sisters!

Supremely we would wish to give glory to God for his grace in our lives.

In uncertain times in our nation—as in all years of change—He's the one of total stability.

May He get the glory as we increasingly trust him and serve him in the year ahead,



Meeting mid-week in either a local home or venue members connect with each other and God

Family Life Groups

We continue to run our weekly Family Life Groups. They are successful and include 90% of the Church membership. At these smaller

Summer, where we use the car park for gazebos, tables and chairs and eat good burgers and sausages. Yummy!



house gatherings, it gives opportunity for members to share in smaller groups their more intimate concerns, joys and struggles in a safe environment.

A popular and much-enjoyed monthly added extra are the Social Gatherings that take place. These are where members can invite non-Church attenders and encourage them to meet and relate to Christians. They are always fun events and generally based on the time of the year, e.g. BBQ's in the

A particularly special one this year was when we put on a Surprise Birthday Party for a new member of the Church who had never had a Birthday Party and he was 70! We had a cake made for him and played party games. We had great fun and fellowship. Lots of food was shared. He couldn't believe his eyes when he turned up. Lots of fun and laughter made for a great evening.

Training Volunteers

When we recruit volunteers we not only like to give them experience but also the opportunity to get a qualification in the work they are doing.

So, this year two of our volunteers have completed their courses. One in NVQ Level 3 Advice and Guidance and the other in NVQ Level 2 Customer Service. He now has started Level 3 in Advice and Guidance also.

Both volunteers are unemployed but with these extra qualifications, they should gain employment, (not that we are keen on losing their help).

We value our volunteers greatly and although we didn't have any German placements in this financial year, there are two young ladies that are hoping to join us in 2019-2020.

Volunteers are the girders that boost our work in the community and we could not function without their help.

Welcome Home

Unless the Lord builds a house, the work of the builders is wasted. Psalm 127:1a
Anyone who listens to my teaching and follows it is wise, like a person who builds a house on solid rock. Matthew 7:24
Through wisdom, a house is built, and by understanding it is established; by knowledge the rooms are filled with all precious and pleasant riches. Proverbs 24:3-4



Celebration Meetings

Meeting each week at 10:45am, Celebration is the main church service of the week.

During this year we have had a few additions to our Church Family that has been encouraging.

A particularly joyful time was when a lady and her Husband came to visit after an absence of 20+ years.

The lady had moved for employment up North but because of ill health wanted to move back to the Midlands to be near her Son and family. So she visited the Church where she was Born again—ours.

It was lovely to see her again and meet her Husband.

Well they enjoyed it too, so much that they stayed. God provided them with a new home and a new Church—Praise His name! We are overjoyed that they are choosing to stay with us and grow, as part of the family of Centrepint.



PLACE OF WELCOME

We continue to serve West Bromwich as a Place of Welcome. We have regular visitors who come up to our building just for a chat and a cuppa. Some of these folks are lonely and just need some company for an hour or two.

Plus, very often we attract those who are homeless and roofless. They enjoy the warm welcome they receive, the food and hot drinks offered and the opportunity to talk about their issues. We engage with them and ask if they need anything. The main things required being food, warm clothing, sleeping bag or blanket, clean socks and shoes/boots. We endeavour to help with as much of these as possible. We also offer them a housing interview, asking where they have already tried and phoning possible places where they might stay. Some are entrenched homeless and aren't interested but others really appreciate the help.

Agencies, the Police, Sandwell Council, the NHS and others are aware of the support we offer and we receive referrals from them or visitors are directed to where we are situated. It's not unusual to be in an evening Church activity and needing to ask a Church member to assist someone who has walked in. We are here to serve our Community and this is not a problem.

So, although we no longer run the Soup Kitchen, we are actively involved in helping the Homeless and whoever else needs support in whatever way we can. We love to serve.

Jesus came
to serve not
to be served.
We follow in
His footsteps.





The Support Centre is open
Monday to Thursday each week
providing advice, guidance and
practical support to those in need

Centrepont Support Centre

Centrepont Support Centre has several arms to it's meeting the needs of our Community. We offer Benefits Advice, in the past year helping secure £69,125 of un-claimed benefits for those entitled. We help with residency applications to remain in the UK and help avoid the increasing number of fraudsters that are charging for their services in the area. We also offer Financial Capability, offering clients the chance to chat through their Budget and get help tackling their Priority Creditors.

Thereby, our services have grown in popularity, especially amongst the Spanish speaking community. The service is accessible to all, with a disabled friendly wide door, no steps, a large toilet space with disability aids. Plus, we have access to several translators to interpret the many languages of people that presently live in the

Sandwell area from the EU and other countries.

We continue to be part of the Sandwell Providers Network and our work is monitored by them to ensure good quality standards remain throughout the year. Our Advisors and their Supervisor attend the monthly meetings that are used to discuss and be aware of current changes of policy and to share common good practice. Regular training opportunities are given our advisors to ensure they are fully up to date with all new legislation and practice.

We also provide Food Bank Vouchers for families and individuals who are struggling due to some financial deficit. These they can redeem at the Food Bank just up the road from where we are.

We also provide Food Parcels of fresh produce to those who are struggling.



Centrepont Christmas Giving

Christmas 2018 was another year of showing our Community that we care. Many families in our Community have been suffering the effects of companies going into liquidation. Large retail groups making redundant many of their employees. This has obviously effected the Christmas of families and we wanted to help as best we could.

So through our networking, we asked for referrals of families that needed provision of toys and goodies for their children. We also sent out a request for those who would like to donate toys and goodies to families who were struggling.

The response for both was good and generous. A team of Church volunteers put together the hampers of wrapped toys and goodies for 25 families. The Church had also purchased some toys from In Kind Direct at a reduced cost.

The families were very grateful for all they received and so were the organisations that had referred them, hoping we could help. We were grateful for the opportunity to give to struggling families. It was fulfilling to us all to give generously and cheerfully. As our Lord teaches us to do.





"Enough! You've corrupted justice long enough, you've let the wicked get away with murder. You're here to defend the defenceless, to make sure that underdogs get a fair break; Your job is to stand up for the powerless, and prosecute all those who exploit them."

Psalms 82:3

The Message Bible

1 Samuel 2: 8

He puts poor people on their feet again; he rekindles burned-out lives with fresh hope, Restoring dignity and respect to their lives—

a place in the sun!

The Message Bible



Centrepoint Supported Housing Project

We continue to run a House for Homeless men, giving the day to day support that is needed when moving from a place of Homelessness to Independent living. Offering support with benefits, employability skills, health and hygiene, budgeting, cooking and cleaning support. We work in close partnership with Hope into Action, they work with all the admin and landlord responsibilities and together we work in supporting the tenants. We have had a couple of longer term tenancies but also shorter ones. Remaining in contact when they move on, so as to ensure a smooth transition.

Watching one of the men really start to thrive is tremendous, he has become very involved in the work at Centrepoint Christian church and we now have a Family Life Group meeting at the house.


The ability to welcome people, to give them a sense of belonging and to see wonderful rela-

tionships and friendships being forged is a blessing in itself.

Obviously there have been some challenges but it's been worthwhile.

We get fantastic support from Hope into Action and we've learnt from the challenges. They've made us stronger and better equipped to put that new knowledge into practise.

Those who support the residents enjoy seeing the difference their developing friendship is making. Encouraging independence and the resilience that's needed to succeed.



So, with the Sunset, we end another Financial Year
2018-2019 and look forward to the Sunrises of this
forthcoming year with hope and expectation.



	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Offerings	3603	-	-	3603	5798
Covenants/Gift Aid and Tax Back	9073	-	-	9073	7857
	-	-	-	-	-
Donations	3039	-	-	3039	1105
Disclosure Service	-	-	-	-	-
Resources and Training	2313	-	-	2313	-
Travel/Trips	-	-	-	-	-
Miscellaneous	-	-	-	-	-
Catering	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Small grants	-	-	-	-	-
Outreach Worker Grant in	-	16200	-	16200	21600
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
SMBC grant	-	10079	-	10079	16,675
Sub total	18028.00	26279	-	44307	53035
A2 Asset and investment sales, etc.					
	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	18028.00	26279.00	-	44307.00	53035



A3 Payments

Stationary		-	-		129
Pastors Wage	-	-	-	-	-
Fuel Costs	806	-	-	806	1178
		-	-	-	-
Church Insurance	567	-	-	567	985
Telephone calls and Internet	1226	-	-	1226	919
Training Costs		-	-		40
Office Rent and Services	8527	-	-	8527	7926
	-	-		-	-
Internet	4			4	62
Bank charges	35			35	35
Resources	1858			1858	1117
Charitable Giving	638			638	1140
Hospitality		-	-		107
Pastors Expenses					355
Catering					50
youth	-			-	-
Miscellaneous	-			-	-
office equipment	997			997	568
Travel/Trips	-			-	-
Disclosure Service		#			
Outreach Worker Grant out	-	16200		16200	23400
					0
	-	-		-	0
Small Grants Out	-	-		-	-
SMBC grant	-	13392	-	13392	13325
Sub total	14658.00	29592.00	-	44250.00	51493

A4 Asset and investment purchases, etc.					
	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	14,658	29592	-	44250	51493
Net of receipts/ (payments)	3370	3313	-	57	1542
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	-8	1550	-	1542-	-
Cash funds this year end	3362	-1763	-	1599	1542

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Cash funds this year	3362-	-1763	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	3362	-1763	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK

B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use

Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
Computers, Printers, etc.	Unrestricted		800
Furniture, Fittings, Fixtures, etc.	Unrestricted		1100
Lighting and PA System	Unrestricted		900
Data Projector	Unrestricted		250
Laptops x 3	unrestricted	-	600
Printer x 3	unrestricted	-	150



Financial Report

Independent Examiners Report Report to Centrepont Christian Church

I report on the accounts of Centrepont Christian Church for the year ended 30-6-19.

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general directions given by the Charity Commissioners. The examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the account presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the account, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning such matters.

Independent Examiners Statement.

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements to keep accounting records in accordance with the Charity Act;
- And to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the Act.

Have not been met or to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Sara Krist
501 Simmons Drive, Quinton
West Midlands.

Dated : 27th January 2020

This report was presented to the Annual General Meeting of Centrepont Christian Church Tuesday 11th February 2020.

The report and accounts were approved by the Trustees, Senior Leadership Team and Centrepont Membership at that meeting as an accurate record of the activities of Centrepont Christian Church during the period 1st July 2018 to 30th June 2019

Signed
Dated: 11/02/2020

Denise Toseland